



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Group Art Unit 3747

In re

Patent Application of

Gary J. Gracyalny, et al.

Application No. 10/712,120

Confirmation No. 7677

Filed: November 13, 2003

Examiner: Castro, Arnold

“VACUUM RELEASE MECHANISM”

I, Molly Seymour, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date of my signature.

Molly Seymour  
Signature

Jan. 26, 2005  
Date of Signature

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE UNDER 37 C.F.R.**  
**1.104(E)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication responds to the Examiner's statement of the reasons for allowance of the claims, contained within the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due mailed November 17, 2004.

Applicants wish to comment on the Examiner's statements regarding the reasons for allowance of claims 44-75 by pointing out that the reasons set forth by the Examiner refer only to certain features of independent claim 44 and are not the only reasons that claims 44-75 are allowable. Claim 44 may include additional patentable features or combinations of features not mentioned by the Examiner or taught or suggested by the prior art. Additionally, each of

dependent claims 45-75 may include additional patentable features or combinations of features not mentioned by the Examiner.

As such, claims 44-75 may be patentable for reasons not mentioned by the Examiner as well as for those reasons mentioned by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CFL' followed by a stylized flourish.

Casimir F. Laska  
Reg. No. 30,862

Docket No.: 018367-9626  
Michael Best & Friedrich LLP  
100 East Wisconsin Avenue  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-4108

(414) 271-6560